



November-December Reminder

An attitude of gratitude is good for you.

“At the University of California at Riverside, psychologist Sonja Lyubomirsky is using grant money from the National Institutes of Health to study different kinds of happiness boosters. One is the gratitude journal—a diary in which subjects write down things for which they are thankful. She has found that taking the time to conscientiously count their blessings once a week significantly increased subjects' overall satisfaction with life over a period of six weeks, whereas a control group that did not keep journals had no such gain.”

“Gratitude exercises can do more than lift one's mood. At the University of California at Davis, psychologist Robert Emmons found they improve physical health, raise energy levels and, for patients with neuromuscular disease, relieve pain and fatigue. ‘The ones who benefited most tended to elaborate more and have a wider span of things they're grateful for,’ he notes.”

“Another happiness booster, say positive psychologists, is performing acts of altruism or kindness—visiting a nursing home, helping a friend's child with homework, mowing a neighbor's lawn, writing a letter to a grandparent. Doing five kind acts a week, especially all in a single day, gave a measurable boost to Lyubomirsky's subjects.”

“Seligman has tested similar interventions in controlled trials at Penn and in huge experiments conducted over the Internet. The single most effective way to turbocharge your joy, he says, is to make a “gratitude visit.” That means writing a testimonial thanking a teacher, pastor or grandparent—anyone to whom you owe a debt of gratitude—and then visiting that person to read him or her the letter of appreciation. ‘The remarkable thing,’ says Seligman, ‘is that people who do this just once are measurably happier and less depressed a month later. But it's gone by three months.’ Less powerful but more lasting, he says, is an exercise he calls three blessings—taking time each day to write down a trio of things that went well and why. ‘People are less depressed and happier three months later and six months later.’”¹

Paul and Timothy in the letter to the saints in Christ Jesus at Phillipi knew then what the scientist are validating experimentally now. There are positive outcomes when we are thankful. 4:4-8

Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things.

This November and beyond I invite you to see what gratitude can do. Think about such things and be thankful. Be thankful and keep a gratitude journal. Be thankful and share it in writing and in person. Thanks be to God.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

November...

3rd Harry Shelby
6th Vangie Wilkinson
Ron Brown
21st Dick Garringer
22nd Missi Young
28th Julia Pittenger
29th Hester Mitchell
30th Dale DeHaven



December...

1st Sandy Hunter
4th Nancy Campbell
5th Sarah Turner
7th Virginia Sharp
9th Jack Richardson
18th Kay Rankin
20th Diane Baldwin
21st Bill Terhune
27th Sara Mitchell
29th Steve Dettman
30th Jeanette Perky



November...

20th David & Kim Brown
26th Jerry & Barbara Miller
Bill & Julia Pittenger

December...

3rd Ron & Pat Brown
4th Bill & Nellie Campbell
6th Tony & Amanda Collins
20th Dale & Debra DeHaven
Jack & Jeanne Richardson
31st Mark & Amy Clevenger

November-December Reminder

Give thanks with a grateful heart for...

The IHOP Breakfast Group for the work that was done at Main St. UMC so they can continue their ministry to children.

Susan Reno for the use of a carpet cleaner and assisting Jama Tyburczyk, our custodian, with cleaning carpet stains in various areas around the church.

The IHOP Breakfast Group for providing and serving the meal to the Commonway Church members on the 26th of September.

Everyone that contributed candy, hot dogs or money and/or participated in the Trunk-n-Treat festivities in the church parking lot on the 30th of October.

Gary & Laura Shadoin for donating a TV to be used in a classroom and by the SAF Youth. Your donation is appreciated.

Everyone who has helped with our fellowship time this fall. You all have my deepest gratitude for keeping this part of our radical hospitality ministry running smoothly!
Thanks - have a blessed week! Amy Clevenger

To our brothers in Christ~

Just a note of THANKS to all of you who helped us at Main Street to get ready for our Kids Bible Club. Your kindness and the work you have done for us is so very much appreciated. The Kids for Christ Bible Club is up and running. We have four different age groups (classes) at this time, with two more classrooms available. Our classrooms are beautiful with new ceiling tiles, some new drywall, fresh new paint, and newly stained, shining floors. Our special thanks to Pastor John, Barry and his helpers. Our greatest thankfulness goes to God, for sending these kind and loving men to do his work, always remembering we are his hands and feet. Once again, you are greatly appreciated. Thank you!!!

In Christian Love, all of us at Main Street UMC

To the community of faith at Riverside~

Missi and I greatly appreciate your gift of an Artist Series program in honor of pastor's appreciation month. We also greatly appreciate the Trustees and all who worked painting the outside trim at the parsonage. And we appreciate your care for us and your support of our shared ministry in the name of Jesus Christ.

Faith, Hope, and Love, John & Missi

Ministry Support

Trustees' Corner

The Trustees thank the members of the IHOP Breakfast Group and Ron & Pat Brown for contributing money towards the purchase of paint used on the exterior trim at the Parsonage. Thanks also to Dale DeHaven, Barry Turner, Mark Clevenger and Frank Lawhead (Pastor John's friend) for assisting Ron & Pat Brown and me in painting and Bob Harvey for doing some wood repair work.

The Trustees thank everyone that has contributed or pledged to the *Above and Beyond-Preparing for the Future* Capital Improvement Fund Drive. We're off to a fantastic start. By the time you read this, two new heat pumps will have already been installed in two classrooms on the main floor in the educational wing. You recall, these two units were purchased with Memorial Funds. If the weather holds and the calendar allows we will be able to repair the cracks in the parking lot and/or seal the exterior of the south wall in Fellowship Hall.

We extend our thanks to Bill Watson, Mick Phelps and Ron Brown for serving as Trustees. Their terms of service expire at the end of this year.

Weather Related Church Closing Information

The Trustees wish to advise you that if the city declares a snow or other emergency and requests that travel be restricted to essential or emergency travel only, Sunday services will be cancelled. This would also pertain to any meetings scheduled during the week. We, however, encourage you to use good judgment when the streets and roads are hazardous to travel on when a State of Emergency has not been declared.

If a meeting is cancelled, please contact Tom Schamp (765) 749-4410. He will contact WLBC 104.1, WTHR Ch 13 and Fox59 Ch 11. An e-mail will be sent to those who have given their e-mail address to the church. If possible, an announcement will also be placed on the church's answering machine. If in doubt, please call the church 288-4257 or Pastor Young at 288-3826 or his cell at 278-8733. Committee Chairs may also consider establishing a telephone chain call procedure for their committee.

If a snow or other emergency prohibiting travel is not declared we will have church for those who can make it safely to Riverside. If you do not feel safe traveling to church, please stay home. If you have a responsibility at church for the Sunday in question, please stay home, but notify the church of your decision to do so. That will keep us from worrying about you being stuck in the snow and allow us to recruit a replacement among those who are able to travel.

You don't have to be in church to worship God. Jesus in John 4 tells the Samaritan woman that location doesn't matter. We are to "worship the Father in spirit and truth" (John 4:23). However, Luke tells us that "on the Sabbath day [Jesus] went into the synagogue, as was his custom" (Luke 4:16). And Hebrews 10:25 admonishes us "Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching."

COVENANT PARTNERS COMMUNITY DAY

Community Day will be on the third Thursday of the month during November and December. Please bring your bags of supplies by Tuesday, November 16th for the next event on Thursday, November 18th. **Here is the updated list of items to include: unscented hand soap (1 bar or bottle), laundry detergent (small bottle or box), dish detergent (16 oz), Kleenex (1 box), and toilet paper (4 rolls).** Also, please see Susan Reno or Mary Schumacher if you would be willing to share part of your day on those Thursdays from 10-2 with the people at Covenant Partners. You will be blessed.

Interfaith Storytelling Event is November 10 at CTS

[Unexpected Guests at the Table: an Interfaith Storytelling Event](#) begins at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, November 10, 2010 at Christian Theological Seminary's Shelton Auditorium, 1000 W. 42nd St., Indianapolis.

A reception follows at 7:45 p.m. Jewish, Christian and Muslim storytellers bring their scriptures to life.

Follow the “Stories of Hunger & Faith” blog at <http://faithlearninginitiative.wordpress.com>. All are welcome to this unique evening, featuring Marti Steussy, Christian Theological Seminary; George Kelley, Congregation Beth-El Zedeck; and Khabir Shareef, Storyteller’s Drum Inc. Admission cost is a canned food or monetary donation to Gleaner's Food Bank at the door.

For more information, contact Lifelong Theological Education at Christian Theological Seminary at 317-931-4225 or LifeEd@cts.edu.

30th Annual Thanks-Singing Festival...

Sunday, November 14th, 3:00pm at High Street UMC, 219 S. High St.
Please bring canned food and non-perishable food items to support
Christian Ministries Food Pantry.

New to the Library

“Comfort in the Mourning” by Connie S. Owens
Donated by Dorothy Bowman

A simple, meaningful go-to read for words of assurance for those who grieve.

Consecration Sunday Is Coming

Dear Members and Friends of Riverside United Methodist Church:

Sunday, November 14th, is our congregation's Consecration Sunday. I urge you to plan now to attend the two important events: Sunday morning worship and the Celebration Luncheon immediately following worship that same day (a catered meal, not a potluck dinner).

This spiritual-growth-oriented process is designed to enrich our biblical understanding of Christian stewardship. Rather than focusing on the need of the church to receive, the experience concentrates on the need of the giver to give for his or her own spiritual development.

We believe that you are concerned enough to attend on Consecration Sunday and make your financial commitment as an act of worship in the church sanctuary.

No one will call on you at your home for a pledge. But we will contact you personally to secure your commitment to attend morning worship on Consecration Sunday and the Celebration Luncheon immediately after worship.

Cordially,

Darwin Keyton
Church Council Chairperson

BOB HARVEY'S HATS – Many mornings during the summer, I enjoy going to the golf course and playing with a group of fellows. As I leave the house, I pick a golf hat from my closet that best describes my mood that morning. Black for possibly a bad round; Yellow for a sunny day; Red for a crisp time and White for a purely good game (rarely).

At Riverside, I am pleased to also wear a couple different hats. One helps the Finance folks and the other the Endowment group.

Recent events have touched my heart. The wonderful generosity of those gifting the "Above and Beyond" needs plus those blessing our Trunk-n-Treat event.

So, I continue to be in awe at your generosity.

This leads me to a recent conversation with a friend at church as we spoke of her generosity. She reminded me that all she has is really a gift from God. She said she also is to be a good steward of His gifts.

That conversation reminded me... as we thank Him for his generous blessings, perhaps we will also remember to pass on a portion of His gifts when the time comes they are no longer needed on this earth.

What do you think?

Passionate Worship and Radical Hospitality

Fellowship Time

Coffee and snacks are being served each Sunday morning in the Joseph W. Rankin Library. Volunteers are needed so this ministry can continue. A sign up sheet is available in the library. Just let Amy Clevenger know if you have any questions or need to know how to operate the coffee brewer.

Certified Welcoming Church Award

United Methodist Communications recently recognized Riverside United Methodist Church as an official Welcoming Congregation. The United Methodist Church places a high value on Radical Hospitality as a vital ministry. We should all celebrate this important achievement by continuing to embrace newcomers and to provide opportunities for discipleship through your welcoming lifestyle. Riverside will now be certified as a Welcoming Congregation on the denomination's www.find-a-church.org website.

Habitat Work Day

Mark your calendar for Saturday December 4, 2010 and plan to join us for a day of work and fellowship with Muncie Habitat. We will be working from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. The work to be performed and the location is still to be determined. It will be the next to last work day of the building season for Habitat so I would guess we will be completing some houses. They are planning on building new and doing rehabilitation of existing houses. We will need 12 people. There will be a sign up sheet and more information as we get closer to December 4. If you have questions contact Joe Speece at 759-5017 or E-mail jmspeece@aol.com.

Riverside United Methodist Women

To the Women of Riverside,

Invite all Riverside women to attend their November program and dessert meeting on Thursday, Nov. 18, at 2:00p.m. A musical program featuring Barbara Frost and Kathy Grile will be held in the sanctuary at 2:00 p.m. with coffee and dessert following the program in Fellowship Hall. Reservations may be phoned in to the church office, 288-4257, or to Florence Shelby, 282-7172. Please come, we think you will enjoy the opportunity to hear these two talented performers.

November and December Hosts and Minglers

DATE	OUTSIDE DOOR	INSIDE DOOR	LOBBY MINGLER	SANCTUARY MINGLER
11/7	Joe & Judy Vanwinkle	Pat Brown	Marge Salisbury	Karen Blank
11/14	Jerry & Ann Golden	Nellie Campbell	Bill Campbell	Hester Mitchell
11/21	Jack Richardson & Dick Garringer	Virginia Sharp	Cindy Miller	Lynn Wright
11/28	Larry Campbell & Ron Brown	Nancy Campbell	Pat Ashcraft	Janette Taylor
12/05	Rex Pittenger & Harry Shelby	Sandy Hunter	Betty Lacey	Florence Shelby
12/12	Jack Stanton & Susan Reno	Linda Keyton	Sara Mitchell	Mary Schumacher
12/19	Bob & Earlene Harvey	Bill Campbell	Nellie Campbell	Margaret Ann DeBoy
12/24	Fred & Bob Wallace	Betty Lacey	Sandy Jordan	Janette Taylor
12/26	Jack Richardson & Mark Clevenger	Jeanne Richardson	Margaret Ann DeBoy	Amy Clevenger

Having Greeters each Sunday is an important ministry at Riverside. If you are unable to serve when scheduled please ask someone to fill in for you.



Christmas with Heifer

Are you ready to spread “Joy to the World”? It will be easy if you visit the Heifer table in December. What do you buy the person who has everything or the child who has too many toys? How about a goat, a llama, a sheep, chickens, or a heifer! By purchasing an animal or a share of an animal you can help others in need. You will also receive a gift card that tells about how that animal will give hope to a family.

Gifts like cows, goats, sheep, llamas, heifers, or chickens become the means that give people hope out of a cycle of hunger and poverty. They provide milk, eggs, meat, as well as products such as wool that help families earn money for education and clothing. Families share one or more of their animal’s offspring with other families in need. This creates an endless circle of giving.

Animals to purchase for “Joy to the World” include:

Heifer -\$500 or \$50 per share
Llama - \$150 or \$20 per hare
Goat - \$120 or \$10 per share
Sheep - \$120 or \$10 per share
Chickens - \$20 per flock

Make your Christmas giving easy- visit the Heifer table in December and spread “Joy to the World” and help change a life forever.

Adopt-A-Pot

Again this year Riverside will be ringing bells for the Salvation Army on the 9th and 10th of December from 10:00am to 8:00pm. A poster schedule will be available for you to sign up for specific times on those two days. We will be ringing bells in front of MCL Cafeteria and J.C. Penney.

Pillows and Blankets and Sheets, Oh My!For the Y!

The Missions Team will be collecting bedding for the YWCA again this year during the month of November. The YWCA is in particular need of *pillows and pillowcases* at this time, but also need twin sheets, towels and washcloths, blankets and comforters. Just put your donations in the box in the narthex and we will deliver them to the YWCA for you.



Christmas Party

Tuesday, December 14th

5:30pm

Fellowship Hall



UMW Mitten Tree

Riverside United Methodist Women will again sponsor the decorating of a Christmas tree with hats, gloves, scarves, and mittens which will then be given to needy children within our community. Please help us decorate this tree by bringing your contributions and placing them on the tree. Little heads and hands need to be kept warm during a cold winter and you can help. As you place your donation on the tree, please say a prayer for the child who will receive your gift. Thank you for your help with this project.

November-December Reminder



Dear Friend in Christ,

As we continue to walk with Christ at our new adventure at Gethsemane United Methodist Church in Muncie, Indiana I am very excited to announce the next **Little by Little Ministries™** retreat. As most of you know, God has given me a vision for a retreat ministry in which men and women of all ages come seeking Christ in their everyday walk. My first retreat **Learn from Me** was based from Matthew 7. The second retreat **Get It** was based on the passage **Ask and You Shall Receive 'It'**. Our couples retreat entitled **This Way** saw many renewals and new beginnings based on Genesis 3. Now God has given me another vision, **Not I, But Christ**. This retreat is for EVERYONE...men, women and youth.

In Christ,
Rev. Vickie Perkins

NOT I, BUT CHRIST

NOVEMBER 13, 2010

9:00am to 3:00pm

Bearcreek Farms Resort, Bryant, Indiana

December 11, 2010

Spring Mill Inn, Mitchell, Indiana

Not I, But Christ is a study through the life of John the Baptist. John speaks clearly to us "Jesus must become more important, while I become less important".

Not I, But Christ explores four themes in how becoming less sets us free from the burden of controlling and manipulating our own lives:

- 1. "NOT"** - Learning how to Say "no" and really mean it this time.
(John 3:28 "You surely remember how I told you that I am NOT the Messiah." John the Baptist)
- 2. "I"** - The root of all sin is found in the middle ... S "I" N.
(John 3:30 "I must become less" John the Baptist).
- 3. "BUT"** - The bridge to crossing from a self centered life to a Christ centered life.
(John 3:21 BUT everyone who lives by the truth will come to the light).
- 4. "CHRIST"** - Our bread. Our hope. Christ.

COST: \$35.00 per person which includes the cost of the retreat plus the famous Bearcreek Farms Resort Grand Buffet! To register go to: <http://littlebylittleministries.com/>

Dates to Remember...

<i>Sunday, November 7th</i>	<i>9:45 a.m.</i>	<i>Consecration Sunday with Jack Dwiggins preaching followed by a celebration luncheon. Please make your reservations.</i>
<i>Monday, November 8th</i>	<i>6:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Church Council Dinner at Olive Garden</i>
<i>Tuesday, November 16th</i>	<i>6:45 p.m.</i>	<i>Committee on Staff-Parish Relations, Church Library</i>
<i>Wednesday, November 17th</i>	<i>6:30 p.m.</i>	<i>One Month to Live group leaders in Fellowship Hall</i>
<i>Monday, November 22nd</i>	<i>6:45 p.m.</i>	<i>Church Council</i>
<i>Monday, November 29th</i>	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Charge Conference at Selma United</i>
<i>Thursday, December 9th</i>	<i>10am - 8pm</i>	<i>Salvation Army Bell Ringing at the mall</i>
<i>Friday, December 10th</i>	<i>10am - 8pm</i>	<i>Salvation Army Bell Ringing at the mall</i>
<i>Saturday, December 4th</i>	<i>9am - 3pm</i>	<i>Habitat for Humanity</i>
<i>Sunday, December 12th</i>	<i>5:00 p.m.</i>	<i>A Christmas Gathering at Gethsemane UMC</i>
<i>Friday, December 24th</i>	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Christmas Eve Service</i>

*Hanging of the Greens:
A Celebration of the Advent Season
Sunday, November 28th during worship at 9:45 a.m.*

“A Christmas Gathering”

Riverside & Gethsemane UMC, along with Ebenezer Scrooge & the Cratchit family, invite you to join us on December 12th at 5:00 p.m. for “A Christmas Gathering” at Gethsemane’s Asbury Hall.

Ebenezer has seen the light and wants to fellowship over a delicious dinner and share some good old-fashioned Christmas cheer! After the meal, we will enjoy “A Christmas Mosaic,” this year’s much anticipated cantata. The choir has been hard at work already and you won’t want to miss either part of the evening! So please put this celebration on your calendar now and stay tuned for more details! (Volunteers are needed too! Please contact Amy Clevenger 281-0281 or email clevrygal@comcast.net, to see how you can help.)

November-December Reminder

MISSIONS NEWS UPDATE

The Mission Committee's top news is the Operation Classroom Loaves and Fishes fundraiser that was held in September. Thanks to the help and participation of everyone, the \$2,500 goal set became \$3,966 that was earned from the sales and auction of the generous donations from the congregation.

What this means is that we can now do MORE than what we originally planned to do which was to support 33 students with scholarship money to attend school for one year. With the additional money, we are now able to contribute construction materials for a new auditorium that is planned at Baoma School. Thanks to all of you, we are blessing the lives of the students to go to Baoma and to have better facilities in which to learn.

Here is a note from a youth who received a work-study grant: " My main purpose of writing you this letter is to thank you for the scholarship that you have given to me. The reason that made me to thank you for this scholarship is that if this scholarship was not given to me I would not be able to continue my school because I lost my two parents during the war. So there is nobody to pay my school fees. So for this reason, I want to thank you very much."

In addition to the \$3,966 raised for Operation Classroom, other mission opportunities that you have contributed to recently have been:

- Kid's Hope with 19 new mentors and prayer partners
- Crop Walk on October 3rd
- Donations of over 200 canned goods to Christian Ministry Food Pantry
- Donation of 200 Covenant Partner bags
- Hearts and Hands school backpacks donation
- Supplied 1,500 biscuits for the breakfast at the fairgrounds at the Heart and Hands handout
- 8 people served in the Pantry
- 61 YES Kit bags for Operation Classroom have been made

MISSION OPPORTUNITIES COMING UP:

- Continued support of the Covenant Partners bag program. If you signed up for this, it is important to bring your bags each month. Thanks!
- Bring food for the Pantry each Sunday
- Bedding donation campaign for the YWCA in November
- Sign up for Salvation Army bell ringer on December 9th or 10th (10am-8pm each day) at two sites at the mall. A sign up poster is in the Lobby.
- Heifer Project collections will begin in December
- Kids Hope Christmas party at the church on Dec. 14th
- Dec. 4th Habitat for Humanity local project

A BIG THANKS to:

- Margaret Ann DeBoy, Bev Reese, and Inga Hill for their time to make 61 YES Kits
- Those who donated items or services for our Operation Classroom Loaves and Fishes fundraiser
- Those who purchased items or services for our fundraiser
- Bill Watson for his fabulous work as our auctioneer for the fundraiser
- Pat Brown and Nancy Campbell who donated their time cooking for the fundraiser
- Debbie DeHaven who donated her time collecting money for the fundraiser
- Volunteers to the Food Pantry
- Those who donated and walked in the Crop Walk
- Mentors and prayer partners for Kid's Hope
- Those who cooked biscuits for the Heart and Hands breakfast
- Pastor John for his support to the Mission's committee

Intentional Faith and Development

Prayers for the months of November and December...

Week of:

- Nov. 1 For Kids Hope, Mitchell School and all our people who are involved.
Nov. 7 For Consecration Sunday November 14th, and our guest speaker, Jack Dwiggin.
Nov. 14 For our Church Council and the decisions they will make.
Nov. 21 For our many blessings.
Nov. 28 Practice "breath prayers"...these are short prayers that can be said or thought in a single breath. Some examples: Holy Spirit fill me, Give me strength dear Christ, Father show me your love, Teach me patience gracious God.
- Dec. 5 For Bishop Michael Coyner and District Superintendent David Byrum
Dec. 12 For Pastor John Young and Missi and family
Dec. 19 Read and pray about the birth of Christ
Dec. 26 Pray thanking God for your salvation and pray that your neighbors will know Christ also.

Scripture to pray about:

- Psalms 115:1 Not to us, O Lord, not to us but to your name be the glory, because of your love and faithfulness.
Romans 8:28 And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.
Philippians 2:4 Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.
Col. 4:2 Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful.

A quote from Mother Teresa:

Our vocation is to belong to Jesus so completely that nothing can separate us from the love of Christ...The important thing is not how much we accomplish, but how much love we put into our deeds every day. That is the measure of our love for God.

Prayer Breakfast:

Everyone involved in Prayer Ministry, including the Kids Hope Prayer Partners...please plan on attending, Saturday, November 20th, 8:30-Noon in Fellowship Hall.

